

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 3, with the following:

For example, the BLAST program "BLAST 2 sequences" (Tatusova et al., "Blast 2 sequences - a new tool for comparing protein and nucleotide sequences", FEMS Microbiol. Lett. 174:247-250), available on the National Institutes of Health Website, available on the site ~~http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gorf/bl2.html~~, may be used, the parameters used being those given by default (in particular for the parameters "open gap penalty" : 5, and "extension gap penalty" : 2; the matrix chosen being, for example, the "BLOSUM 62" matrix proposed by the program), the percentage of identity between the two sequences to be compared being calculated directly by the program.